

LEGISLATIVE BILL 781

Approved by the Governor April 14, 2026

Introduced by Ballard, 21.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; to amend sections 18-1737, 60-201, 60-3,193.01, 60-462.01, 60-4,132, 60-501, 60-2705, 60-2909.01, 75-365, 75-369.03, 75-392, and 75-393, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to adopt updates to federal law and update certain federal references; to change civil penalties against certain motor carriers; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 18-1737, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

18-1737 (1) Any city or village, any state agency, and any person in lawful possession of any offstreet parking facility may designate stalls or spaces, including access aisles, in such facility owned or operated by the city, village, state agency, or person for the exclusive use of handicapped or disabled persons whose motor vehicles display the distinguishing license plates issued to such individuals pursuant to section 60-3,113, such other handicapped or disabled persons or temporarily handicapped or disabled persons whose motor vehicles display a handicapped or disabled parking permit, and such other motor vehicles which display a handicapped or disabled parking permit. Such designation shall be made by posting aboveground and immediately adjacent to and visible from each stall or space, including access aisles, a sign which is in conformance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices adopted pursuant to section 60-6,118 and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the federal regulations adopted in response to the act, as the act and the regulations existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

(2) The owner or person in lawful possession of an offstreet parking facility, after notifying the police or sheriff's department, as the case may be, and any city, village, or state agency providing onstreet parking or owning, operating, or providing an offstreet parking facility may cause the removal, from a stall or space, including access aisles, designated exclusively for handicapped or disabled persons or temporarily handicapped or disabled persons or motor vehicles for the transportation of handicapped or disabled persons or temporarily handicapped or disabled persons, of any vehicle not displaying the proper handicapped or disabled parking permit or the distinguishing license plates specified in this section if there is posted aboveground and immediately adjacent to and visible from such stall or space, including access aisles, a sign which clearly and conspicuously states the area so designated as a tow-in zone.

(3) A person who parks a vehicle in any onstreet parking space or access aisle which has been designated exclusively for handicapped or disabled persons or temporarily handicapped or disabled persons or motor vehicles for the transportation of handicapped or disabled persons or temporarily handicapped or disabled persons, or in any so exclusively designated parking space or access aisle in any offstreet parking facility, without properly displaying the proper license plates or handicapped or disabled parking permit or when the handicapped or disabled person to whom or for whom, as the case may be, the license plate or permit is issued will not enter or exit the vehicle while it is parked in the designated space or access aisle shall be guilty of a handicapped parking infraction as defined in section 18-1741.01 and shall be subject to the penalties and procedures set forth in sections 18-1741.01 to 18-1741.07. The display on a motor vehicle of a distinguishing license plate or permit issued to a handicapped or disabled person by and under the duly constituted authority of another state shall constitute a full and complete defense in any action for a handicapped parking infraction as defined in section 18-1741.01. If the identity of the person who parked the vehicle in violation of this section cannot be readily determined, the owner or person in whose name the vehicle is registered shall be held prima facie responsible for such violation and shall be guilty and subject to the penalties and procedures described in this section. In the case of a privately owned offstreet parking facility, a city or village shall not require the owner or person in lawful possession of such facility to inform the city or village of a violation of this section prior to the city or village issuing the violator a handicapped parking infraction citation.

(4) For purposes of this section and section 18-1741.01, state agency means any division, department, board, bureau, commission, or agency of the State of Nebraska created by the Constitution of Nebraska or established by act of the Legislature, including the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska state colleges, when the entity owns, leases, controls, or manages property which includes offstreet parking facilities.

Sec. 2. Section 60-201, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-201 For purposes of the adoption by reference of federal law and regulations contained in the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act, the Motor

Vehicle Registration Act, the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act, and the Nebraska Rules of the Road, when a provision of any of such acts refers to the date specified in this section, such date is January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

Sec. 3. Section 60-3,193.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-3,193.01 For purposes of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, the International Registration Plan is adopted and incorporated by reference as the plan existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

Sec. 4. Section 60-462.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-462.01 For purposes of the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act, the following federal regulations are adopted as Nebraska law as they existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025:

The parts, subparts, and sections of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as referenced in the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act.

Sec. 5. Section 60-4,132, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-4,132 The purposes of sections 60-462.01, 60-4,133, and 60-4,137 to 60-4,172 are to implement the requirements mandated by the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, 49 U.S.C. 31100 et seq., the federal Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, Public Law 106-159, 49 U.S.C. 101 et seq., section 1012 of the federal Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001, USA PATRIOT Act, 49 U.S.C. 5103a, and federal regulations as such acts and regulations existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025, and to reduce or prevent commercial motor vehicle accidents, fatalities, and injuries by: (1) Permitting drivers to hold only one operator's license; (2) disqualifying drivers for specified offenses and serious traffic violations; and (3) strengthening licensing and testing standards.

Sec. 6. Section 60-501, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-501 For purposes of the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) Department means Department of Motor Vehicles;
(2) Former military vehicle means a motor vehicle that was manufactured for use in any country's military forces and is maintained to accurately represent its military design and markings, regardless of the vehicle's size or weight, but is no longer used, or never was used, by a military force;

(3) Golf car vehicle means a vehicle that has at least four wheels, has a maximum level ground speed of less than twenty miles per hour, has a maximum payload capacity of one thousand two hundred pounds, has a maximum gross vehicle weight of two thousand five hundred pounds, has a maximum passenger capacity of not more than four persons, and is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting and recreational purposes;

(4) Judgment means any judgment which shall have become final by the expiration of the time within which an appeal might have been perfected without being appealed, or by final affirmation on appeal, rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction of any state or of the United States, (a) upon a cause of action arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of any motor vehicle for damages, including damages for care and loss of services, because of bodily injury to or death of any person or for damages because of injury to or destruction of property, including the loss of use thereof, or (b) upon a cause of action on an agreement of settlement for such damages;

(5) License means any license issued to any person under the laws of this state pertaining to operation of a motor vehicle within this state;

(6)(a) Low-speed vehicle means any:
(i) Four-wheeled motor vehicle:
(A) With a speed attainable in one mile of more than twenty miles per hour and not more than twenty-five miles per hour on a paved, level surface;
(B) With a gross vehicle weight rating of less than three thousand pounds;
and

(C) That complies with 49 C.F.R. part 571, as such part existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025; or

(ii) Three-wheeled motor vehicle:
(A) With a speed attainable of not more than twenty-five miles per hour on a paved, level surface;
(B) With a gross vehicle weight rating of less than three thousand pounds;
and

(C) That is equipped with a windshield and an occupant protection system.
(b) Low-speed vehicle does not include a motorcycle with a sidecar;

(7) Minitruck means a foreign-manufactured import vehicle or domestic-manufactured vehicle which (a) is powered by an internal combustion engine with a piston or rotor displacement of one thousand five hundred cubic centimeters or less, (b) is sixty-seven inches or less in width, (c) has a dry weight of four thousand two hundred pounds or less, (d) travels on four or more tires, (e) has a top speed of approximately fifty-five miles per hour, (f) is equipped with a bed or compartment for hauling, (g) has an enclosed passenger cab, (h) is equipped with headlights, taillights, turnsignals, windshield wipers, a rearview mirror, and an occupant protection system, and (i) has a four-speed, five-speed, or automatic transmission;

(8) Motor vehicle means any self-propelled vehicle which is designed for use upon a highway, including trailers designed for use with such vehicles, minitrucks, and low-speed vehicles. Motor vehicle includes a former military

vehicle. Motor vehicle does not include (a) mopeds as defined in section 60-637, (b) traction engines, (c) road rollers, (d) farm tractors, (e) tractor cranes, (f) power shovels, (g) well drillers, (h) every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead wires but not operated upon rails, (i) electric personal assistive mobility devices as defined in section 60-618.02, (j) off-road designed vehicles, including, but not limited to, golf car vehicles, go-carts, riding lawnmowers, garden tractors, all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles as defined in section 60-6,355, minibikes as defined in section 60-636, and snowmobiles as defined in section 60-663, and (k) bicycles as defined in section 60-611;

(9) Nonresident means every person who is not a resident of this state;

(10) Nonresident's operating privilege means the privilege conferred upon a nonresident by the laws of this state pertaining to the operation by him or her of a motor vehicle or the use of a motor vehicle owned by him or her in this state;

(11) Operator means every person who is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle;

(12) Owner means a person who holds the legal title of a motor vehicle, or in the event (a) a motor vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale or lease thereof with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or lessee or (b) a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, then such conditional vendee or lessee or mortgagor shall be deemed the owner for the purposes of the act;

(13) Person means every natural person, firm, partnership, limited liability company, association, or corporation;

(14) Proof of financial responsibility means evidence of ability to respond in damages for liability, on account of accidents occurring subsequent to the effective date of such proof, arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle, (a) in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident, (b) subject to such limit for one person, in the amount of fifty thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and (c) in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident;

(15) Registration means registration certificate or certificates and registration plates issued under the laws of this state pertaining to the registration of motor vehicles;

(16) State means any state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any province of the Dominion of Canada; and

(17) The forfeiture of bail, not vacated, or of collateral deposited to secure an appearance for trial shall be regarded as equivalent to conviction of the offense charged.

Sec. 7. Section 60-2705, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-2705 (1) The Director of Motor Vehicles shall adopt standards for an informal dispute settlement procedure which substantially comply with the provisions of 16 C.F.R. part 703, as such part existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

(2) If a manufacturer has established or participates in a dispute settlement procedure certified by the Director of Motor Vehicles within the guidelines of such standards, the provisions of section 60-2703 concerning refunds or replacement shall not apply to any consumer who has not first resorted to such a procedure.

Sec. 8. Section 60-2909.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

60-2909.01 The department and any officer, employee, agent, or contractor of the department having custody of a motor vehicle record shall, upon the verification of identity and purpose of a requester, disclose and make available the requested motor vehicle record, including the sensitive personal information in the record, other than the social security number, for the following purposes:

(1) For use by any federal, state, or local governmental agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out the agency's functions or by a private person or entity acting on behalf of a governmental agency in carrying out the agency's functions;

(2) For use in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitral proceeding in any federal, state, or local court or governmental agency or before any self-regulatory body, including service of process, investigation in anticipation of litigation, and execution or enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of a federal, state, or local court, an administrative agency, or a self-regulatory body;

(3) For use by any insurer or insurance support organization, or by a self-insured entity, or its agents, employees, or contractors, in connection with claims investigation activities, anti-fraud activities, rating, or underwriting;

(4) For use by an employer or the employer's agent or insurer to obtain or verify information relating to a holder of a commercial driver's license or CLP-commercial learner's permit that is required under the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, 49 U.S.C. 31301 et seq., as such act existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025, or pursuant to sections 60-4,132 and 60-4,141; and

(5) For use by employers of a holder of a commercial driver's license or CLP-commercial learner's permit and by the Commercial Driver License Information System as provided in section 60-4,144.02 and 49 C.F.R. 383.73, as

such regulation existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

Sec. 9. Section 75-365, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

75-365 (1) Definitions contained in the regulations referred to in sections 75-363 and 75-364 shall only apply to such regulations.

(2) When the regulations referred to in sections 75-363 and 75-364 require that any person submit a report to the United States Department of Transportation or any other federal agency, that person shall also submit a copy of the report to the Nebraska State Patrol.

(3) For purposes of sections 75-362 to 75-369.07, when a provision of any of such sections refers to the date specified in this section, such date is January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

Sec. 10. Section 75-369.03, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

75-369.03 (1) The Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety may issue an order imposing a civil penalty against a motor carrier transporting persons or property in interstate commerce for a violation of sections 75-392 to 75-3,100 or against a motor carrier transporting persons or property in intrastate commerce for a violation or violations of section 75-363 or 75-364 based upon an inspection conducted pursuant to section 75-366 in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand twenty-eight ~~one thousand two~~ dollars for any single violation in any proceeding or series of related proceedings against any person or motor carrier as defined in 49 C.F.R. 390.5 as adopted in section 75-363.

(2) The superintendent shall issue an order imposing a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed twenty thousand five hundred thirty-seven ~~twenty thousand seventeen~~ dollars against a motor carrier transporting persons or property in interstate commerce for a violation of subdivision (2)(e) of section 60-4,162 based upon a conviction of such a violation.

(3) The superintendent shall issue an order imposing a civil penalty against a driver operating a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 60-465, that requires a commercial driver's license or CLP-commercial learner's permit, in violation of an out-of-service order. The civil penalty shall be in an amount not less than three thousand nine hundred sixty-one ~~three thousand eight hundred sixty-one~~ dollars for a first violation and not less than seven thousand nine hundred twenty-four ~~seven thousand seven hundred twenty-three~~ dollars for a second or subsequent violation.

(4) The superintendent shall issue an order imposing a civil penalty against a motor carrier who knowingly allows, requires, permits, or authorizes the operation of a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 60-465, that requires a commercial driver's license or CLP-commercial learner's permit, in violation of an out-of-service order. The civil penalty shall be not less than seven thousand one hundred fifty-five ~~six thousand nine hundred seventy-four~~ dollars but not more than thirty-nine thousand six hundred fifteen ~~thirty-eight thousand six hundred twelve~~ dollars per violation.

(5) Upon the discovery of any violation by a motor carrier transporting persons or property in interstate commerce of section 75-307, 75-363, or 75-364 or sections 75-392 to 75-3,100 based upon an inspection conducted pursuant to section 75-366, the superintendent shall immediately refer such violation to the appropriate federal agency for disposition, and upon the discovery of any violation by a motor carrier transporting persons or property in intrastate commerce of section 75-307 based upon such inspection, the superintendent shall refer such violation to the Public Service Commission for disposition.

Sec. 11. Section 75-392, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

75-392 For purposes of sections 75-392 to 75-3,100:

(1) Director means the Director of Motor Vehicles;

(2) Division means the Division of Motor Carrier Services of the Department of Motor Vehicles; and

(3) Unified carrier registration plan and agreement means the plan and agreement established and authorized pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 14504a, as such section existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025.

Sec. 12. Section 75-393, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

75-393 The director may participate in the unified carrier registration plan and agreement pursuant to the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005, 49 U.S.C. 13908, as the act existed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2025, and may file on behalf of this state the plan required by such plan and agreement for enforcement of the act in this state.

Sec. 13. Original sections 18-1737, 60-201, 60-3,193.01, 60-462.01, 60-4,132, 60-501, 60-2705, 60-2909.01, 75-365, 75-369.03, 75-392, and 75-393, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, are repealed.

Sec. 14. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.